

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

3.1 ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this Project, involving at least one impact that is a “Potentially Significant Impact” (prior to mitigation) as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics | <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air Quality |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Geology/Soils |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hazards & Hazardous Materials | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hydrology/Water Quality | <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use/Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Noise | <input type="checkbox"/> Population/Housing |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation/Traffic |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Utilities/Service Systems | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance | |

3.2 DETERMINATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

☐ I find that the proposed Project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

☒ I find that although the proposed Project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the Project have been made by or agreed to by the applicant. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

☐ I find that the proposed Project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.

☐ I find that the proposed Project MAY have a “potentially significant impact” or “potentially significant unless mitigated” impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.

☐ I find that although the proposed Project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed Project, nothing further is required.

Signature

March 25, 2009

Date

Eric Gillies
Printed Name

California State Lands Commission
For

3.3 EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

The MND follows the environmental checklist form presented in Appendix G of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines. The checklist form is used to describe the impacts of the proposed Project. A discussion follows each environmental issue identified in the checklist.

For this checklist, the following designations are used:

Potentially Significant Impact: An impact that could be significant, and for which no mitigation has been identified. If any potentially significant impacts are identified and cannot be mitigated, an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) must be prepared.

Less-Than-Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated: An impact that requires mitigation to reduce the impact to a less-than-significant level.

Less-Than-Significant Impact: Any impact that would be adverse, but not considered significant.

No Impact: The Project would not have any impact. This could also include a beneficial impact.

Impacts are also classified as:

- **Class I** (significant adverse impact that remains significant after mitigation);
- **Class II** (significant adverse impact that can be eliminated or reduced below an issue's significance criteria);
- **Class III** (adverse impact that does not meet or exceed an issue's significance criteria); or
- **Class IV** (beneficial impact).

Each environmental issue area analyzed in this document provides background information and describes the environmental setting (baseline conditions) to help the reader understand the conditions that would cause an impact to occur. In addition, each section describes how an impact is determined to be "significant" or "less than significant." Finally, the individual sections recommend mitigation measures (MMs) to reduce significant impacts. Throughout Section 3.0, both impacts and the corresponding MMs are identified by a bold **letter-number designation** (e.g., Impact **BIO-1** and **MM BIO-1a**).

1 **Applicant Proposed Measures**

2 Applicant Proposed Measures (APMs) have been identified by Coscol in its Application
3 submitted to the CSLC. The APMs are listed in Section 2.5.1, Applicant Proposed
4 Measures. The impact analyses presented in Section 3.3 assume that all APMs would
5 be implemented by Coscol and, where appropriate in specific subsections, applicable
6 APMs are cited. Where it was determined that the APMs would not fully mitigate the
7 impacts for which they are presented, additional mitigation measures are
8 recommended.